

Message Text

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51

ACTION SY-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 USSS-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

M-03 A-01 PRS-01 INR-10 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NEA-10 SS-15

NSC-10 L-03 INRE-00 /075 W
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FM AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2663

AMEMBASSY QUITO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GUAYAQUIL 506

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, EC, US

SUBJ: REPORTED PLAN TO KIDNAP CONGEN OFFICIAL

1. EDITOR OF GUAYAQUIL NEWSPAPER " LA RAZON" INFORMED USIS
CONTACT 9 MAY THAT ONE OF HIS REPORTERS OVERHEARD LENGTHY
CONVERSA-
TION ON 8 MAY AT GUAYAQUIL UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
CONCERNING POSSIBLE PLANS TO KIDNAP UNIDENTIFIED AMERICAN CONSUL
TRAVELLING TO GALAPAGOS ISLANDS. FURTHER CHECKING WITH THE ORIGINAL
SOURCE REVEALS FOLLOWING:

A. SIX STUDENTS, NAMES UNKNOWN, WERE INVOLVED IN CONVERSATION;

B. USE OF HYPODERMIC WITH PENTATHOL OR ETHER WERE REFERRED TO;

C. EXTORTION OF MONEY WAS DISCUSSED;

D. AN AMERICAN CONSUL TRAVELLING TO THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS WITH
HIS WIFE AND TWO CHILDREN WERE REFERRED TO;

E. A BOAT CALLED THE " CALICUCHIMA" WHICH TAKES TOURISTS TO
THE GALAPAGOS WAS MENTIONED.

F. THE TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF THE NEWSPAPERS " EL UNIVERSO"
AND " EL TELEGRAFO" WERE REFERRED TO;

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G. A PLANE OF "TAME" AIRLINE WHICH FLIES TO THE GALAPAGOS WAS MENTIONED.

H. THE DATES 14 AND 18 MAY WERE MENTIONED.

2. BUILDING IN WHICH CONVERSATION WAS OVERHEARD IS HANGOUT FOR VIOLENCE- PRONE MEDICAL STUDENTS. POINT D, ABOVE, APPEARS SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO VICE- CONSUL DONALD BRYFOGLE WHO, WITH WIFE, TWO CHILDREN, AND FATHER- IN- LAW IS CURRENTLY ON TRIP TO GALAPAGOS ABOARD THE "CALICUCHIMA", DUE TO RETURN MAY 14. POINT G, HOWEVER, RAISES POSSIBILITY THAT TRIP OF OTHER CONGEN PERSONNEL (INCLUDING USIS CONTACT OFFICER) WHICH PROJECTED FOR PERIOD 18-25 MAY BEING REFERRED TO.

3. WE ARE IN PROCESS OF ALERTING NAVAL ZONE COMMANDER (TOUR BOAT IS RUN BY NAVY), GOVERNOR, AND LOCAL SECURITY POLICE, AND WILL ATTEMPT TO INFORM "CALICUCHIMA' S" MASTER AND BRYFOGLE THROUGH ECUADOREAN NAVY COMMUNICATIONS CHANNELS. WE ARE ALSO CHECKING FURTHER THROUGH OTHER MEANS ON POSSIBLE INTENTIONS AND PLANS OF STUDENTS OR POTENTIAL KIDNAPPERS.

4. ATTEMPT TO KIDNAP AND HOLD SOMEONE HOSTAGE IN REMOTE GALAPAGOS WOULD PRESENT DIFFICULTIES FROM PRACTICAL LOGISTICS AND COMMUNICATION POINT OF VIEW. KIDNAPPING DURING "CALICUCHIMA' S" APPROACH TO PORT OR AT DOCK UPON RETURN MORE FEASIBLE. FACT REMAINS, HOWEVER, THAT CONVERSATION DESCRIBED ABOVE DID TAKE PLACE AND WAS OBSERVED BY EXPERIENCED JOURNALIST FRIENDLY TO U. S. WHO DOES NOT HAVE OBVIOUS MOTIVE FOR FABRICATING STORY. WE WILL REPORT FURTHER DETAILS AS THEY OCCUR.
LUBENSKY

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